

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 EURE-00 OES-06 DLOS-06 SAL-01

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 /097 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5966

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IMMEDIATE

USDOCOLAND SOUTHEAST IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

COMNAVINTCOM ALEXANDRIA VA IMMEDIATE

COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: "SISMIK I" ACQUIRES GREEK COLLEAGUE: THE "NAUTILUS"

DAO IR 6837018876 (NOTAL)

1. THE VOYAGE OF THE SIMIK I, AND ITS REPERCUSSIONS ON
GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS GENERALLY, CONTINUES TO BE HIGH-
LIGHTED IN THE GREEK PRESS, ALTHOUGH OTHER ISSUES HAVE
DISPLACED IT FROM TIME TO TIME IN RECENT DAYS AS THE MAIN
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STORY. FOR EXAMPLE, OVER THE WEEKEND THE FOCUS OF MUCH OF

THE NEWS PASSED ON TO THE PROPOSAL OF PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS TO ESTABLISH THE OLYMPICS IN GREECE ON A PERMANENT BASIS, AN OFFER WHICH INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PRESIDENT LORD KILLANIN INDICATED IN REPLY WOULD BE CONSIDERED AT SOME INDEFINITE FUTURE DATE BY THE COMMITTEE.

2. IN ANY CASE, A NEW WRINKLE HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE SAGE OF THE SISMİK I. ON AUGUST 2 THE GOG SENT AN OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY VESSEL, THE NAUTILUS, ON ITS FIRST VOYAGE TO THE NORTHERN AEGEAN WITH CONSIDERABLE FANFARE. THIS SHIP, BELONGING TO THE GREEK NAVY, IS DESCRIBED BY THE MEDIA AS HAVING BEEN COMMISSIONED JUST TWO MONTHS AGO AND EQUIPPED WITH THE MOST MODERN MACHINERY FOR HYDROGRAPHIC, OCEANOGRAPHIC AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WORK. A GOG OFFICIAL STATED THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS VOYAGE AS BEING TO TEST THE ENGINES AND EQUIPMENT.

3. COMMENT: WHILE SOME PRESS PLAY PORTRAYS THE NAUTILUS EXPEDITION AS THE GREEK REPLY TO THE SISMİK I, WORKING LEVEL MFA AND GREEK NAVY SOURCES TOLD US THAT THE NAUTILUS PUTTING TO SEA AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME WHEN THE SISMİK IS ALSO AT SEA IS ONLY "COINCIDENTAL". IN FACT, AS REPORTED BY THE DAO (REFERENCED IR), THE 1,400 TON AGOR NAUTILUS WAS COMMISSIONED IN NOVEMBER 1975 AND HAS BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY INVOLVED IN ROUTINE TRIALS AND HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OPERATIONS. THUS IT SEEMS MORE PLAUSIBLE THAT THE SENDING OF THE NAUTILUS OUT AT THIS MOMENT IS RELATED TO THE SISMİK'S ACTIVITIES AND THE GOG IS REACTING, BUT REACTING CAUTIOUSLY. IT CREATES THE PUBLIC APPEARANCE THAT THE GOG IS TAKING ACTION IN RESPONSE TO TURKISH MOVES IN THE AEGEAN WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THIS MOVE DOES NOT INCREASE THE POSSIBILITY OF DIRECT CONFRONTATION.

4. COORDINATED WITH USDAO.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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